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REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in connection with the interview with the Examiner.

During the interview the Examiner indicated that the claims required clarification with respect to the method features, and also that the operation of the pressure control valve in accordance with the present invention had to be clarified.

In connection with this, applicants is submitting herewith a copy of the Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings of the present application with corresponding explanations, to clarify the present invention.

In the drawing, the ramp or slide is additionally identified. When the slide in Figures 1 and 2 is moved upwardly, fluid flows from the supply port 18 on open first valve closing member 30 (the ball is lifted from its seat) into the fluid channels 24. Since the second valve seat is closed by the slide, the fluid flows from the channels 24 to the consumer port 16. The fluid flow is identified with arrows.

Figures 1 and 2 should be considered jointly, to understand the three dimensional construction of the inventive device.

When the slide in Figures 1 and 2 is moved downwardly, the first valve closing member 30 closes, while the second closing member opens on the seat plate 34. In this not shown case the fluid flows from the consumer port 32 through the fluid passage to the outlet 20.

The second attachment shows the construction of the device disclosed in the patent to Najmoldhoda. Here the fluid flows in the first position of the slide 67 from the supply 72 to the consumer port 80 and in the second position of the slide 67 flows from the consumer port to the outlet 81 (first exhaust port). Through the second outlet 74 the fluid flows however only from the control pressure chamber 75. Therefore, the closing member 38 arranged in the plastic part 18 does not control, but only the slide 67 controls the fluid flow between the supply port 72 and the consumer port 80. Moreover, in the patent Najmoldhoda, the consumer output 80 is not supplied from a fluid passage which is formed in a perform.

The Examiner indicated that the claims which deal with an apparatus include method claim language. In connection with this, applicants made some changes. For example in claim 1 it was stated that a valve unit 10 is configured as a plastic-extruded valve unit, and in claim 9 it was additionally stated that the edge layer of the perform is configured

as an edge layer which is superficially fused and welded with the flange. Thus, these features deal with a configuration, and not with process steps. The same is true with respect to the statement that the fluid channels and the valve chamber are formed on an injection-molded perform that is extrusion-coated with a flange. This statement does not define the process steps, but instead defines the corresponding structural elements which are configured in a corresponding way.

The feature that the fluid channels and the valve chamber are formed on an injection-molded perform that is extrusion-coated with a flange clearly and patentably distinguishes the present invention from the patent to Najmoldhoda in which the perform (bobbin 18) is not extrusion-coated with a flange. The perform in the reference can not be extrusion-coated with valve housing 19 which is identified by the Examiner as a flange, since the apparatus disclosed in the patent to Najmoldhoda would not allow such construction.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance,

then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



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